

Title: Requests the Central Government to accept the recommendations of the University Grants Commission to revise pay scales of the teachers.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN (BAHRAICH): Thank you for permitting me to raise a matter of public importance. As a result of the refusal by the Central Government to accept the recommendations of the University Grants Commission, there is an unprecedented tension and unrest among the members of the academic community and the academic institutions throughout the country. UGC is a body which is empowered by an Act of Parliament and the practice in the past has always been that on the question of the pay revision of the teachers, the recommendations of the University Grants Commission are accepted by the Government. For the first time, by disregarding the law of the Parliament and the healthy past practice, the Government has created a situation where the academic community of the country has been forced to take to the streets. The day before yesterday they organised a march to Parliament in order to press their demand that the Government should accept the recommendations of the University Grants Commission.

I would like to add that the hon. Prime Minister, after Pokhran, had given a slogan of 'Jai Vigyan'. This can be possible only if we are able to retain talent in the academic institutions. With the level of pay scale which is there today, there is bound to be flight of talent not only from the academic institutions to other fields but also the flight of talent from this country to other countries. So, on the one hand the slogan of 'Jai Vigyan' is being raised and on the other hand the academic community is asked to accept a lower status.

I demand from the Government to give up their stubbornness and accept the recommendations of the University Grants Commission so that this unrest among the academic community comes to an end.

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">SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I support what has been said by Shri Arif Mohammed Khan in regard to the revision of pay as recommended by the University Grants Commission.